

II. General Remarks Concerning This Response

Claims 1-35 and 46-50 are currently pending in this application; claims 1-29, 31-34, and 46-50 are finally rejected; and claims 30 and 35 remain objected to. Claims 1-29, 31-34, and 46-50 have been appealed, and claims 36-45 have been canceled herein.

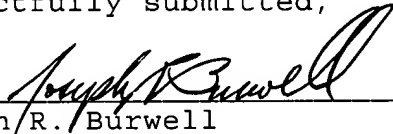
Claims 36-45 have been cancelled in order to file a continuation patent application to pursue an allowance of those claims while appealing the rejected claims.

III. Conclusion

For any other outstanding matters or issues, the examiner is urged to call or fax the below-listed telephone numbers to expedite the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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